



LACATech Meeting Minutes – May 4, 2011

Roll Call

The LACATech meeting was called to order at 8:35am on May 4, 2011. The following members were present for the roll call: Joe Winnenberg (Crooksville), Randy McFerren (East Muskingum) Rob Sexton (Granville), Michele Berry (Heath), Sondra Wilson (Newark City), Larry Smith (North Fork), Shawn Wilkoski (Northridge), Chris Cashdollar (West Muskingum), Sally Sperry (Mount Vernon), Tim Owen (Lakewood), and Jon Bowers (LACA). Gerry Cannon (CTEC) arrived at 8:40am and Harold Gottke (Tri-Valley) arrived at 8:50am. Representatives from LCESC, Licking Heights, Maysville and Southwest Licking were unable to attend.

Others attending were Chip Zolman (Mount Vernon), Brian Gottfried (Excel Academy), Paul Kamenen (Fairfield Christian), Jill Merry (St. Francis), Dave Stenson (St. Francis), David Deibel (Granville Christian), Tess Wigginton (Newark Catholic), Joey Alexander (LACA), Dave Stein (LACA), Chad Carson (LACA), and Robert Rittenhouse (LACA).

Approval of Previous Meeting's Minutes

11-12 It was moved by Sally Sperry and seconded by Larry Smith to approve the minutes of the March 2, 2011 LACATech meeting. A unanimous vote of approval was taken.

Introduction of New Members

Joe Winnenberg from Crooksville Exempted Village Schools was introduced to the group.

eTech Ohio Update

Jo Alexander provided an eTech Ohio update. She asked the group to submit ideas to her about improving eTech's services or improving the technology conference. Please direct any questions about the eTech Ohio update to Jo at jo.alexander@etech.ohio.gov, or visit the eTech Ohio website at <http://www.etechnology.org/>.

ITSCO Update

David Hayward provided an ITSCO update. Please direct any questions about the ITSCO update to David at david@itsco.org or visit the ITSCO website at <http://www.itsco.org/>

Moodle Update

Michele Carlisle (LACA) provided an overview showing how schools in the area are using Moodle. Mount Vernon HS had Moodle training in August 2010 and as a result of their implementation, applied for 2 eLearn days from the state which were used as calamity recovery days. The state actually gave them 4 days, all made up through eLearning. Example Moodle sites and teacher pages were shown from various schools to stimulate ideas about usage of Moodle. LACA hosts Moodle servers for many districts. Hosting at LACA helps insure the site stays up and running even in the event of a power outage. Please direct any questions about Moodle to mcarlisle@laca.org.

Ohio K-12 Network Updates

The 2nd half of building connectivity subsidies should be flowing very shortly. ODE's budget items that affect LACA funding have been reduced by 10% across the board. The \$2,000 subsidy per building can still happen even with the 10% cut. The difference is made up by eliminating subsidies to ITCs for a redundant alternative path internet connection (LACA does not have this, so we are not affected).

Video Services

Summer Technology Workshops - LACA and Newark City Schools have partnered to hold Summer Technology Workshops on June 16 for K-5 staff and on June 17 for 6-12 staff. Registration forms were distributed. Contact Jane Galbraith (jgalbraith@laca.org) or Trish Baker (pbaker@laca.org) for more information.

iPad Training - LACA has scheduled three of these for the summer, but they are already full. We can schedule more if your district is interested. The only available times we could do these are the week of July 11th or week of July 18th. Please contact Trish Baker pbaker@laca.org if you are interested in putting together one of those classes for your teachers. ITSCO also offers iPad classes and can customize trainings for your schools as well.

Midland Theatre – The Midland Theatre has no current Yellow Bus offerings scheduled that we are aware of at this time. They have a permanent connection directly to LACA's network, so any offerings they conduct will flow directly through LACA to the schools, resulting in a much better experience. We will notify the group when any offerings are made available.

WAN Updates

Internet Safety – It was reiterated from the last meeting that LACA recommends you conduct a lesson for all students and document it well to meet the eRate requirement for providing such training. There is no specific information on how to do this in any eRate documentation. Some schools use iSafe to meet this requirement. Discounted subscriptions for iSafe can be purchased through ITSCO.

Technical Services Update

Internet Content Filtering – We are having issues with the M86 content filter blocking GoToMeeting's technology. So far, the M86 tech support does not have a fix. The only recourse we have is to globally exempt the IP ranges for GoToMeeting from the M86 filter. If we do this, districts will not be able to choose to block it locally. If we do NOT do this, districts will have to use their override password to allow GoToMeeting on an as needed basis. This was discussed with the group. It was moved by Harold Gottke and seconded by Chris Cashdollar to globally exempt GoToMeeting and all related IP addresses from the internet content filter. There was a unanimous vote of approval. This motion will go to the Governing Board for approval. C-TEC's local M86 box is not yet in place. We will have an update on this at the next meeting. M86Security now has a site at www.m86vunsafe.com which acts as a portal for you to build a video library of select YouTube videos, and block the rest, allowing safe access to videos of your choosing. This site is just recently out of beta testing, and may be a little rough around the edges, but it is available for you to test.

E-Mail Archiving – We will be implementing Exchange 2010 servers for LACA staff this summer for testing, and will likely begin moving districts to this starting in the fall. We will be evaluating the need to purchase the Messageware product for Exchange 2010. The main features we originally purchased this for were to enable a browseable address book and calendar sharing through OWA. However, these features are already in Outlook 2010's version of OWA, so we may drop the Messageware product for a cost savings. Messageware actually costs more than the Exchange licensing does, and nearly all OWA problems we have encountered are related to Messageware. One feature that will definitely go away is Attachview, which allows you to view attachments in HTML without needing to have the normal software installed (ex: View an Excel spreadsheet without Microsoft Excel installed). There is no equivalent for this in OWA 2010.

Virus Protection Research – LACA needs to increase our anti-virus licensing to true-up to the number of computers in the network, as well as cover the new districts coming on with LACA this year. We would like to proceed with a portion of the purchase of ESET Nod32 for those districts

this summer, and to purchase ESET Nod32 for everyone else 6 months before the Symantec contract ends. This results in getting 4 years of licensing for half of our workstation count, and 3 and ½ years for the remainder of the workstations. It was moved by Sally Sperry and seconded by Harold Gottke to approve the purchase of ESET Nod32 Antivirus effective July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2015. A unanimous vote of approval was taken.

Other Discussion

Group Purchasing Committee – Joey Alexander shared a quote for HP hardware to create a VMWare ESX two host cluster attached to an MSA SAN. The quote had multiple disk/cpu options that can be used to ballpark the cost based on needs. Please contact Joey Alexander for a more formal quote if you are interested in pursuing this. This quote did not include the VMWare ESX software. If we can get multiple purchases together we MAY be able to negotiate lower pricing or free VMWare software. Please email network@laca.org if interested.

Alert Now – We are working with AlertNow on group pricing. We have been asked by TRZ Communication for the same type of setup on their product. Jon asked if there was interest in having a demo of the TRZ software. Ryan Nash from AlertNow was in attendance at the meeting to meet with the tech coordinators and answer questions.

Unfinished Business

Ohio Alerts Reminder – Since the March meeting, we have been informed that AT&T has limitations on the number of inbound text messages they allow, which makes Ohio Alerts ineffective in areas with large numbers of AT&T subscribers. We have no update from NOACSC on a resolution to this yet.

Virtual Applications Pilot – Discussion took place about the proof-of-concept that we have been evaluating. There was definitely interest in pursuing this to the next level. Chad will attempt to get the Citrix evaluation extended. There were multiple unanswered questions about licensing, where files can be saved, etc. Based on this, LACA will see if we can get MCPc (Citrix vendor) to come in to present and answer questions at the June 1 topic-based meeting.

New Business

Licking County Goodwill accepts used computer equipment. This can be dropped off at any of their Goodwill locations, or they will come out and do a pickup if you have large amounts. Please contact Dick Gray at Goodwill at (740) 345-9861 for more information about this service. Brian Gottfried shared that the Licking County Office for Litter and Recycling at 777 East Main Street, Newark (740-670-5125) will also accept items, including large items like copiers.

The last LACA Topic Based meeting of this school year is scheduled for:

- June 1, 2011 - We will try to schedule a Citrix Xenapp meeting to review how this is being done at other ITCs around the state. Information will be sent out after we confirm this date with the Citrix vendor.

Cyber bullying - Legislation has been put in place that requires teachers to be trained on cyber bullying before October 2011. A few districts are using Sylcom software to accomplish this (www.sylcominc.com). This software has primarily been used for other required training, like hazardous materials, but they have branched out and added other trainings like cyber bullying and sexual harassment. Jon Bowers will look into costs for this and similar software and forward the information to the group.

11-14 It was moved by Sally Sperry and seconded by Michele Berry to adjourn the meeting at 10:30am.

Next LACATech meeting will be the first one of the FY12 school year, on September 7, 2011 at 8:30am.

Reported by Chad Carson, Director of Technology, LACA